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The Platform.

Who really wrote it?

Who finally revised it? Fortunately, this year the Republican party is claiming the confidence of the country and the votes of American citizens not as a newcomer and applicant offering a prospectus; but upon the strength of | part of the United States. a record of achievement brilliant and successful beyond parallel, and also upon the strength of actual public knowledge of this Administration's honest methods and patri-

otic purposes. There is much that is sound and true, in a general and special way, in the resolutions adopted at Philadelphia yesterday. There are some things left unsaid that would better have been said; and perhaps other things written that would better have been left unwritten.

But the true platform of 1900 is the story of the past three years; and the formal resolutions, regarded as a distinct announcement of intentions, are admirably supplemented, as it happens, by the speech of Senator Wolcott day before yesterday, and the speech of Senator Longe yesterday to the convention and the country.

Cuba's Elections.

The Cuban municipal elections, the first in which the electors of the island had participated since Spanish domination was overthrown, were held on June 16. Not more than one-third of the men entitled to vote cast their ballots. At the very outset of a career of sovereignty there would seem to be a doubt as to whether Cuba, in all her struggles, has desired actual independence or merely freedom from Spain.

It is true that there was not on June 16 what might be called a federal or general election. It is also true that out of the wreck of the old political groups which struggled for supremacy in Cuba in the days of Spanish rule only one party, or what might be called a party, has been formed. That is known as the Nationalist. Without doubt, also, the traditions of the island in the matter of the exercise of the electoral franchise have never been associated with the casting of an entirely free and untrammelled ballot. The elections under the Spanish régime were usually tainted with fraud, and were simply farcical in their procedure and in their results, so far as concerned representation. But, nevertheless, when it is considered that the decimating wars through which Cuba has passed, with the frightful accompaniments of disease and starvation, have led straight toward a ballot box for their reward; when it is remembered that for generation after generation it has been the dream of Cuban patriots and the hope of its people to secure the boon of self-government, last Saturday's vote is disappointing.

American authorities and practically with the consent of the Cubans themselves, to males above 21 years of age who could read and write or who had property to the amount of \$250. An exception was made by admitting to the suffrage the veterans of the recent war. The recent census of Cuba disclosed a population of nearly 1,600,000, and of these about 140,000 had a right to vote. There are 30,000 men in the island. former Spanish citizens, who have not yet renounced their Spanish allegiance, but who would have been entitled to vote had they become Cuban citizens. In the city of Havana there were about 60,000 men entitled to vote, and of these 60,000 less than 25,000 registered. The total vote on election day in the city of Havana was 19,600, showing that more than 5,000 electors did not think it worth while to cast a vote after they had taken the trouble to register. Such a percentage in the falling off of a vote from the figures registered is significant. One would expect that among people casting their ballots for the first time there would be a rush to the polls on account of the novelty if for no higher reason.

It is too early, doubtless, to expect the formation of parties on a broad basis in Cuba. Outside of the National party there are two others which might more properly be designated as political groups. They are the Republican party and the Democratic-Union party. The Nationalist party is the party of GOMEZ and its name signifies its purposes. The Republican party is also a national party in a broad sense, but it is the party of the extreme radicals, the party in which there is the most hostility to the prolongation of American rule in the island and to a spirit of even commercial union with the United States. The Democratic-Union party is simply the conservative party. notoriously a minority formed largely from the Autonomist party which was voted into power by order of the Spanish Government just before our war with Spain. The Nationalists carried the day in Havana. their Mayor, Gen. RODRIGUEZ, being chosen Mayor over Senor ESTRADA MORA by a vote. in round numbers, of 13,000 to 6,500, or 2 to 1. In the Provinces of Santa Clara and Matanzas the Republicans, who stood for the same general ideas as the Nationalists in Havana, were successful. The Democratic-Union followers made practically no impression at the polls.

The election, therefore, shows that so far as party formation goes there is only one group that has yet formulated its beliefs into such definite shape as to approach the dignity of a party and attract a commensurate following. But even this following, as the small number of votes cast shows, is a minority of those entitled to vote, and it would seem to indicate such a state of indifference to the result as to cause serious doubt whether Cuba is ready to take upon herself the full burdens and difficulties of self-government.

In one sense the election carries with it a personal triumph. The success of the Nationalists is due largely to the vitalizing force of that sturdy figure in Cuba, himself not a citizen of the island, Gen. MAXIMO GOMEZ. Not only has this man of unyielding determination and undimmed confidence in Cuba's future spent the best years of his life in arms for Cuba's sake, but since the war he has never faltered in the expression

of his belief that, complete independence 6 by a ladder from the vessel to the shore, was soon to come to Cuba through the American pledges. When war ceased his energies were devoted toward the formation of a political party to accomplish that end, and the result was the Nationalist party. To Maximo, Gomez belongs whatever personal credit there is in vivifying in a political force the hopes and aspirations which have dominated the lovers of liberty in Cuba for decades and for which he and thousands of others have fought without

sign of wavering. Another fact of significance in the election is that the White Man's party was successful in Santiago. The fear of so-called negro domination had already been eliminated largely by the educational and propertyholding qualifications for the suffrage. Nevertheless, there was a distinctively White Man's party in Santiago, and it succeeded in electing its candidate for Mayor.

Either the Cuban's political activity is in the beginning extremely sluggish, or over all the island is the feeling that nothing looking toward the original goal of independence is of serious importance-that Cuba's destiny and best fortune is to be

Gone!

The death of the great issue which Mr. CLEVELAND adopted as his own, and which dominated our politics during the dreary period of Clevelandism, has never been announced more impressively than by Senato LODGE in his able speech yesterday:

"For ten years the artificial agitation in behalf of what was humorously called tariff reform, and of what was really free trade, had kept business in a ferment, and had brought a Treasury deficit, paralyzed industries, depression, panic, and, finally, continuous bad times to a degree never before imagined. Would you know the result of our tariff legislation Look about you! Would you measure its success Recollect that it is no longer an issue: that ou opponents, free traders as they are, do not dare to make it an issue: that there is not a State in the Unio to-day which could be carried for free trade against protection. Never was a policy more fully justified by its works. Never was a promise made by any party more absolutely fulfilled.

The statement is not exaggerated. Not one State of the Union, Republican or Democratic, could be carried to-day against protection on the tariff Issue raised by Mr. CLEVEIAND'S message to Congress of De-

That effort of headstrong folly remains memory, humorous in some aspects, as Mr. LODGE points out, but in the main dismai beyond description and disastrous and costly beyond precedent.

Better days and brighter skies!

The Life-Saving Service. The Life-Saving Service, a branch of the Treasury Department, is a part of the Government that affects comparatively few persons. Persons who go down to the sea in ships may too often need the aid of the life-saving crews; and such persons will never forget the service. Summer visitors at watering places near the lifesaving stations inspect the houses and their equipments casually; and stories are written about the doings of this or that crew. The annual report of the service, however, is more interesting than any fiction, and a collection of the reports would make a library of adventure that would throw into the shade CLARK RUSSELL and the late WILLIAM H. G. KINGSTON.

The annual report of the service for the year ending June 30, 1899, has just been published, although it was made as long ago as last November. It shows that 265 life-saving stations are maintained. Of these 193 are on the Atlantic and the The franchise was limited, by order of the Gulf coasts, 56 on the Great Lakes, 15 on business with the latter. No city or State the Pacific coast, and one station is at the Falls of the Ohio, at Louisville, Ky. At by far the greater number of these stations, the crews numbered six men; at others, from seven to nine; and at one station, that at Cleveland, there were ten men. The crews were on duty for periods varying from five to ten months, the time depending on the nature of the coast and the season of navigation. Extra men were hired during the storm season for each station. The numerical strength of the service

was about 1,700 men. Within the field of station operations last year, there were 428 disasters to documented vessels, and 294 disasters to undocumented vessels, such as sailboats and rowboats. On the documented vessels there were 3,903 persons, of whom 56 were lost; on the small craft there were 671 persons, 7 of whom perished. The total value of property imperilled on the larger vessels was \$8,104,640, of which \$6,261,900 was saved and \$1,842,740 lost. On the smaller craft, the property involved amounted to \$138,-535, of which all but \$9,250 was saved. Seven hundred and fifty-one persons were succored at the various stations, for an average of nearly two days each.

The loss of life during the year was sixtythree, a larger number with one exception than in any year for the previous twenty years. Forty-four persons perished in the Second district alone, on the Massachusetts coast; more than half of these were lost in the great storm of 1898, on Nov. 26-27-the storm, says the report "which will longest be remembered as that which destroyed the steamer Portland with all her erew and passengers, estimated as numbering between one hundred and fifty and two hundred people." But this loss of life was exceptional, and not due to any negligence on the part of the Life-Saving Service. In the blizzard of February, 1899, principally because its progress covered several days and so gave time for warning sailors, no lives were lost on the coast; 28 vessels were assisted and 230 lives were saved. The Lake record is equally remarkable; in 263 disasters, in-

volving 1,454 persons, 3 persons were lost. The Life-Saving Service is called on often to save life from positions of danger otherwise than from vessels. In the year covered by the report, it rescued 97 persons, some of whom had fallen from wharves, others of whom were bathing, while others had been cut off by the tide or were adrift on ice. Five hundred and ninety-one stranded vessels and boats were helped off; 382 small vessels and boats were assisted in various ways, and 193 vessels were

warned by surfmen on patrol. The manners of rescue are interesting The surfboat was used 773 times, making 1,080 trips; the self-bailing and self-righting lifeboat was used 132 times to make 163 trips; the gasolene launches at City Point made 90 trips on 80 occasions; smaller boats on 432 occasions made 526 trips; the breeches buoy was used 11 times, and made 55 trips; on the last trip it came back empty, evidently, as the report says that 54 persons were saved by it. The wreck gun was used 17 times, firing 29 shots; and the heaving stick was thrown 28 times. Nine hundred and forty-nine persons were saved by the surfboat, 111 by the lifeboat; 11

and 2 by means of the heaving lines. The service sent to the Japanese Society for Saving Life from Shipwreck a set of the beach apparatus used by it, and received a very cordial letter of thanks. The society had an account of the gift sent to all the Provincial Governors, to the papers and periodicals, and in other ways spread abroad in Japan a knowledge of what the

United States had done. In accordance with law, the report contains accounts of the disasters involving loss of life. These accounts, taken down from the survivors or from the surfmen who were present at the wrecks, are vivid and interesting to a high degree. They cannot be retold here; but the accounts of the ten vessels lost in the great November storm of 1898 will prove again the accuracy of the proverb that truth is stranger than fiction, and likewise more interesting.

The year under report ends the twentyninth season of the Life-Saving Service under its present organization. In that time, the service has aided at 11,170 disasters, involving \$169,428,599; it has saved \$132,021,447. Of the 85,916 persons in peril, t has saved 85,008; and in its houses 14,627 persons have been succored for 36.659 days. Truly it is a wonderful record.

The St. Louis Boycott.

After nearly six weeks of rioting, in the course of which fifteen persons or more have been killed, many injured and such outrages against women committed as have made the St. Louis strike infamous even in a long list, that strike has ended in the absolute defeat of the strikers. It would have stopped long ago if the Governor of Missouri had been a man and not a mouse or if the St. Louis Police Board were controlled by the city and not by the State. Violence has been the only argument and reliance of the strikers. Aided by the cowardice of the authorities. they have made a reign of terror in St Louis.

Terror and disorder there will still be. but the labor lords are now seeking a new remedy. Beginning with bloodshed, they have now got as far as the boycott. MAHON, President of the International Union of Street Railway Employees, is going to try to milk the labor unions of Illinois and the Southern States for funds to sustain the general and universal boycott and business excommunication which are to be or have been launched against anvbody and everybody that dares to ride on or work for or furnish stock and equipment to the outlawed street railways. The Hon. SAM GOMPERS of the Federation of Labor was imported to St. Louis as soon as the shooting got a little slack and proceeded to earn his salary by putting his labor concern on the side of the boycotters. A boycott is the sequel of a broken strike.

The business men and all the other decent people of St. Louis have suffered a good deal from this strike. Much in pocket, much in inconvenience, not least on account of the disgust and horror with which the revels of organized disorder have filled every man and woman who is not engaged in a sympathetic strike against law, right and ordinary humanity and decency. Now comes the boycott with its ramifications. The campaign of spite and slander follows that of the pistol and the bludgeon. Lawessness takes a new form.

It must be met bravely and put down. Whatever be the cowardice of a few individuals the community is heartily sick of these attempts of baffled strikers to revenge themselves not merely to the injury of their former employers but of everybody who exercises his right of doing or country is free in which traffic with certain individuals or corporations is forbidden by a band of labor monopolists or any other illegal or extra-legal means. Freedom of trade, the right to do lawful business, cannot be given up.

Under leaders incredibly reckless some of the labor unions are taking measures that the public cannot tolerate. Although only a small part of the labor of the country, they assume to be "Labor," and as a privileged class to rule and to disturb industry and trade and to inflict loss upon those who dare to resist them. This so-called organized labor is only an insignificant portion of the American people, and it must be crushed if it does not learn to obey the law, and to cease to interfere with any man's business. Through good nature, through carelessness and ignorance. in some cases through compliance and cowardice, the public has been very tolerant with the labor bosses. It is not in a tolerant humor now. Cleveland and St. Louis, dynamite and woman-stripping have taught it something. The labor riot and the boycott are seen to be equally dangerous to the whole social order. The one and the other will have to be put down. The labor unions, managed by sane and honest men, are all right, but if they are to mean private war and war against business, they cannot stand. Rational men among them and all the friends of order and of free, lawful individual action will resist this St. Louis boycott and every other boycott to the uttermost.

The bloody work of Congress is troubling the con-cience of the country. -Springfield Republican. As usual, Gen. Sambo Bowles cannot distinguish between his liver and the conscience of

The St. Paul Globe is in convulsions over "this blood-stained, victim-strewn path of imperialism," the "altars of BELIAL," the "brazen image" and "the hunted victim of robbery and lust." To these shapes of terror must be added the Hon. IGNATIUS DONNELLY'S Troglodyte, who is now cracking bones in Nininger every day. A match between BELIAL and the Troglodyte would be impressive, and we should like to see the editor of the St. Paul Globe stand up to Molocu for sixteen rounds:

Ambitious Harlemites are seeking official approval of a plan to establish at the foot of West 129th street, where there is already a railroad station, a ferry, a street car terminus and a recreation pier, a sort of port of entry and clearance for Hudson River steamboats. The whole territory on the river side, north of Seventy-second street and south of 129th, is restricted for residential purposes from dock uses, except for a pier at Ninety-sixth street, and the 129th street terminus of the geographical valley called Manhattanville is the only available landing point on the Hudson in that section of upper New York. Prior to the construction of the elevated railroad system! steamboats ran regularly on the East River to Harlem, and since the steamboat service was abandoned for more progressive means of transportation that plan of reaching Harlem, east or west, has not been revived intil lately, when the proposal is made to have established a direct ferry connection between Jersey City slips and Harlem, west, such as s now maintained between Jersey City and Brooklyn. It is further proposed that landing facilities should be furnished to such Hudson River steamboat companies as desire it for a stoppage on arriving and on leaving New York. There has uncoubtedly been a great were saved by surfmen wading into the surf, gain of population in that portion of the city

and no inconsiderable measure of it is due to the vast improvement in the means of transportation offered to uptown residents. Thus far the only direct ferry service with Harlem on the west side of town is supplied by the Fort Lee boats. The evolution of Manhattanville, long a rustic retreat for old New Yorkers, as a thriving seaport would be an inter-

esting sign of enterprise. The Boston correspondent of the Springfield Republican has got back from his vacation, and the bristling front of war maintained by the anti-imperialists is once more visible. "The campaign of education continues." Encouraxed by their recent stupendous success in Oregon, the anti-imperialists are sending 40,000 documents to that State. The Rev. ROBERT E. BISBEF, formerly of Chicopee, will make an anti-imperialist speech in Lewiston, Me., in July. Col. CHARLES RUSSELL CODMAN is preparing a speech of the same sort for use on Cape Cod. The Hon. HERBERT WELSH of Phildelphia will soon publish an anti-imperialist book. A volume of anti-imperialist verses will appear this month. A brilliant record of ac-

St. BOTOLPH is our patron saint -Boston Herald Your English patron saint, but not your real ndigenous guardian and culture bero. The autochthonous little god of your town of little gods is an Indian gentleman named GLOOSCAP. or however else you choose to spell him. He is the earth-compelling hero who split the prime val Boston hill into three parts and so founded the Tri-Mountain City. St. BOTOLPH is a tres-

The Woodmen of the World and the Select Knights and Ladies of America are well-known societies with striking titles. But the most vhimsical and Lewiscarollian of names belongs to the Prudent Patricians of Pompeil, of which Prismatic Primary No. 5 meets in Nashville. The officers are all P's, Premier, Past Premier, Prefect, Pilot, Pronotary, Purser, Prophet, Protector, Picket, Patrol, Preserver, Provost, Promoter. The great part of societies, secret or open, in the social life of the United States has hardly been noticed as it should be. There are hundreds of thousands of them, and the mere catalogue of their names would make a fat book.

IN SOUTH APRICA.

Reports are very conflicting as to the strength of the Boer forces still in the field, but whatever it may be their activity is unmistakable. The ountry west of Pretoria is now practically in British occupation, the only Boer force left in it being a small commando under Commandant Duplessis, which lost two guns on Tuesday to a body of British mounted infantry. Of what is going on north and east of Pretoria, the details to hand give only a vague idea. The destruction of the Malalane bridge though inconv. nient is not a danger for the Boers now that they are moving into the Lydenburg Mountains, as there are roads leading into them from the railway between Koomatipoort and the point where the bridge was destroyed, and there is a line of railway completed to about half way between Koomatipoort and Leydsdorp to the north of Lydenburg, the management of which the Boers took over a short time ago. The real danger so far as the railway is concerned is that the communications should be interrupted on one side or the other close to the frontier: this has been provided against as far as possible both by the Boers and Portuguese, the advantage of keeping the line open being as great to one side as to the other, though for different reasons.

In the Free State the British forces appear to be more or less everywhere on the defensive The Boers are reported to be harassing the troops guarding the railway communications, and one body of them succeeded in destroying a newly constructed culvert and derailing train at Kopjes Siding a short distance south of the Rhenoster River. On Tuesday Gen. Me thuen routed a Boer force near Heilbron which will reassemble at some other point as after the affair at Roodeval. Gen. Rundle, who was said to have the Boers near Ficksburg surrounded. is reported to have retired to Scheepers Nek President Steyn has temporarily established the capital of the Free State at Bethlehem, the head of the railway to Ladysmith; and Natal reports say that there are still many Boers in the Drakensberg Mountains who will have to be driven out before the country can be considered conquered. Lorenzo Marques is, it seems not the only point through which the Boers derive supplies of war material, as they are said to have received several Creusot guns a short time ago through some landing-place at an other part of the coast. The list of British casnalties in the fighting in the Free State during the past fortnight runs up into the hundreds, sufficient proof in it-elf that the country is not yet conquered, and that a good deal more has yet to be done before it is.

Beadle Novels and Modern Novels.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The letter which recently appeared in THE SUN from those who in their lusty boyhood revelled in the charms of the salmon-covered Beadle's Dime Novels have awakened old memories in many breast. The writer was once such a boy, and he remembered the thrill that shot through his heart when he found out the answer to that all-absorbing question, "Who was Seth Jones?" He remembered the phlegmatic Dutchman whose Indian wife-Keewaygooshturkumkankangewock-hoed the corn while he smoked in peace. He remembered the mighty Bill Biddon and Nat Todd and Pete mighty Bili Biddon and Nat Todd and Fete Jinkins, all the long roll of heroes who fought the flere Indians and died like men in defence of virtue and honor when all the West was a mighty forest and danger lurked on every hand. He remembered the Yankee's adventures in Mexico, told in dashing style by Col. A. J. H. Duganne, but his creator of heroes was Edward S. Ellis, first, last and always.

Like a man in a dream he explores his garret—no, they are not there—then the library of his son, a newspaper writer—yes, here they are! Two old volumes bound in blue morocco, one marked "Hash," the other "Headcheese," hearing the date 1887. He tenderly opens "Hash," and it leads off with "Seth Jones," then "Bill Biddon," "Nat Todd" and "Irona," by Ellis, the "Peon Prince" and "Putnam Pomfret's Ward," by Duganne. With a deep sigh over the times that were, he picks up "Headcheese," and finds the "Frontier Angel," the "Forest Spy," the "Riffemen of the Miami, the "Hunter's Cabin," and "Oonomoo the Huron," by Ellis, and the "Land Claim" by Frances Fuller Barrett. I doubt if there is a collection as large as this anywhere after all these years.

"To Have and to Hold" is the best novel of linkins, all the long roll of heroes who fought these years. To Have and to Hold" is the best novel o the year, and perhaps of many years, but could it ever give the pleasure to the man that those old dime novels did to the boy?

Inquiry develops the fact that all my children have read "Hash" and "Headcheese" from cover to cover, many times over, and my son says they are the most valuable books in his collection.

JOHN A BRIGHER

LAKEWOOD, R. I.

JOHN A. BELCHER.

From the London Truth. Centuries are on the finerease and a perusal of Sat arday cricket scores makes it clear that in one-day matches the odds are against a game being finished. The same observation applies to the heavy scoring that always takes place in college cricket matches at the universities. The bowling is no doubt weak. But when first-class bowlets get knocked about as they do at present it is scarcely likely that young fellows will give up their time to bowling when they can have so much more fun with the bat. Now, a slight indentation in the ball would enable the bowler's fingers to get such a grip as to put a good deal of work on. He would be more likely to get wickets. The consequence would be that at the

public schools youngsters would be encouraged to First Club Room for Automobiles.

From the Boston Daily Transcript. The clubs in the Boston neighborhood, some of hem will begin to make a place for the "auto." o take any active steps is the Eastern Yacht Club, which has its fine clubhouse at Marbichead Neck. This club has had a bicycle room, with the engineer to serve as caretaker, for some seasons. This season, since ten or twelve club members have automobiles. there has been a demand for a place where an automobile could be run in under cover while its owner was at the club, and another of the carriage sheds has been remodelled. A hard pine floor has been put in, electric lights have been provided and an electric plug has been set in the wall, so that electric carriages

RECENT EVENTS IN TURKEY. Ghazi Mukhtar Pacha's Resignation and the

Increased Customs Duties.

The Sultan of Turkey appears to be looking for trouble. Without preliminary warning and for no particular reason that can be dis covered, he has issued an irade raising the import duties on certain articles coming from Roumania, Servia, Greece, Montenegro and Bulgaria by 30 to 40 per cent., which means practical prohibition of trade with those States. It has been suggested that his object, or that of those who have prompted him, is to try and force these States to conclude commercial arrangements favorable to Turkey. That, however, if their past history goes for anything, is the last thing they are likely to do and least of all under coercion of the present kind. Greece, as the most commercially developed of the States that have been freed from the rule of the Turk, naturally protests and has appealed to the Powers on the subject, urging that the London Protocol of 1830 assures to Greek and Turkish subjects reciprocally the commercial rights accorded by either nation to the subjects of other powers. It will be interesting to see what course the Sultan will take in the matter, and what may develop out of it, for undoubtedly there is some scheme behind the action he has taken, and the particular time when Europe is preoccupied in the Far East which he has selected.

Then there is the affair of his brother-inaw. Ghazi Mukhtar Pacha, who has recently thrown up his position of Imperial Ottoman High Commissioner in Egypt, which he has held for a number of years, and latterly without being able to obtain his salary, which is a long way in arrears. His nomination to the place was made in consequence of representations he made to his imperial brother-in-law as to the policy he should pursue in regard to what was left him of his European dominion after the Treaty of Berlin. Mukhtar Pacha was of opinion that the best thing to be done at that time was to stimulate the migration of the Mussulman element from Europe, settle t in the waste parts of Asia and then one day, without regard to the European Powers, transfer the seat of Government from Constantinople to Broussa at the foot of the Asiatic Olympus. The reward for the unpalatable advice was his immediate appointment as High Commissioner at Cairo. There he had ample time to observe and meditate on the downward progress of the Ottoman Empire under the régime of the Yildiz Kiosk. and in a moment of patriotic anger he addressed memorial to the Sultan couched in very plain language. He urged radical reforms, such as liberty of the press, appointment to office by merit, the creation of a council for the control of the finances, the establishment of inde pendent tribunals, and the abolition of the Palace veto on Ministerial decisions. Having delivered his soul, he resigned his position and left Cairo, his staff abandoning their functions at the same time. There is not, of course, the slightest probability that the Sultan will pay any more attention to the suggestions of Mukh tar Pacha than he has to those of others conbeived in the same spirit. The incident is of nterest chiefly because it is a sign of the coming end in Turkey, and that the best men of the Empire are sick and weary of the infatuated course of the Sultan, who is leading it to des-

COMMERCE COMMISSION'S POWERS. Can It Direct a Change in the Classification

of Freight by Railroads? WASHINGTON, June 20 .- A question as to the right of the Interstate Commerce Commission to direct a change in the classification of freight by the railroads is before the commission in the case of the Proctor & Gample Company, soap manufacturers of Cincinnati who have filed charges against the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Baltimore and Ohio Rail vania Railroad, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the New York Central and the other railroads, alleging that by changing the classification of scap the railroads bave increased the cost of shipment and imposed higher freight rates. The hearing before the commission was opened to-day, the attorney for the soap manufacturers. Mortimer Mathews of Cincinnati, contending that by the change in the classification the railroads have subjected traffic in common scap, in both carload lots and less, to an undue and unreasonable prejudice. One of the points raised by the attorneys for the railroads is that under the Supreme Court decision the commission cannot fix rates; it has no authority to order the soap returned to a lower classification. cap returned to a lower classification

The Mistake of Bishop McFaul TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I am sorr; to see that Bishop McFaul is advocating the union of all Roman Catholic societies in order that their influence "should be felt in our State

Legislatures and National Congress." He asks the question: "What representation have we in State and national affairs when we measure the proportion we bear to the whole population of the country?" The Church itself has no representation in our Legislatures as the Church, but her children are represented there, not as Catholics, but as citizens

How can any church have representation in either State or national affairs in this Republic where State and Church are separated by the fundamental laws and all religions are alike to the State? Neither the Roman Catholic Church nor any other can demand special legislation in its favor, for such legislation would be a violation of the Constitution, for discrimination in favor of a particular church would practically make that church a State Church. The Constitution is the supreme law of the land and not the Bible nor the creed of any particular church.

If any laws passed by any Legislature in this country favor any church and are injurious to any, they are unconstitutional. The injured church has only to point them out and the Supreme Court will do the rest. NEW YORK, June 18. AN IRISHMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: On Monday you reported the beginning of a movement to unite all Catholic societies for the maintenance of certain "Constitutional rights." This seems to be a new way of describing a combinatio of Catholic societies for political action. Your report says that the matter now actively interests Catholic laymen. It certainly should interest them if they have active Catholic sympathies joined with a decent sense of patriotism.

There is no known law forbidding us from consolidating our Catholic societies for political action; but it will prove a colossal error if we try it. The mere suggestion of organized religious union for political effect in this country seems to express its condemnation. It was tried unsuccessfully in the theocratic days of old Massachusetts, and has never since been

in favor. Another phase of the proposed union is likely to provoke intense hostility. Catholic societies are largely controlled by ecclesiastical superiors whom the laity deeply respect. The non-Catholic citizen believes that this respect will ordinarily command obedience. Very many believe that these ecclesiastical superiors are more or less directly influenced by authorities at Rome. Suppose that a colossal union having these ecclesiastical superiors undertakes political action in a given direction. We shall at once hear a wild alarm about foreign influence-and especially foreign religious influence—at work on American affairs. It is of no importance whether or not this alarm is justified. There are tens of thousands who would continue to suspect that there was reason for alarm. The truth and fact of the matter have nothing to do with it; what seems to be is of importance to these people.

Besides, in what way are the Constitutional rights of Catholics now restrained? I assume that the Filipinos or Porto Ricans are not the special aim of this proposed religious political consolidation. The suggestion to marry political action to spiritual things is a menace to the peace of the country and the good will of Catholic citizens. ROBERT J. MARON. NEW YORK, June 19.

Murre Eggs fer Any One. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In looking over the Sunday SUN I noticed some person was

gathering odd eggs. I have two Murre eggs any one can have if they want them. They lay them on rocks ful when they discovered that the average British far out to sen. They are very pretty. GRAND MANAN, June 12.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN 1801. How Jefferson Defeated Burr-A Correction of

Col. McClure's Story. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. A C. McClure had a very interesting article in your paper of Sunday, the 17th instant, on Presidential Accidents," but he repeats an error which has been often corrected in relation to the first election of Thomas Jefferson as President. Mr. McClure says:

"But for the aggressive hostility of Alexander Ham liton to Aaron Burr the chances are quite even that Burr would have been chosen President over Jefferson in the House in the great battle of 1801. "During the seven days' balloting between Jefferson and Burr the latter received the vote of siz States, with Vermont and Maryland divided. The change of a single vote in the Vermont delegation in the House would have given the vote of that State to Burr: the change of a single vote in the Maryland delegation would have given the vote of that State to Burr, and he change of a single vote in the New Jersey delegation would have given the vote of that State to Burr, making the number necessary to his election. Thus while the election of Jefferson by the House in 1801 is generally regarded as an inevitable result, in nt of fact but for the earnest intervention of Alexander Hamilton, the leader of the Federalists. Bur rould most likely have been made President Instead

of Jefferson."

It is true that Hamilton urged the Federalsts in the House not to vote for Burr, but to vote for Jefferson, but it is not true that any of them followed his advice. Jefferson during the whole thirty-six ballots which were taken did not receive a single Federal vote. Hamilton urged, nay implored them to give their votes to Jefferson, and wrote repeated letters to his friends in Congress to that effect, but he did not prevail with a single man. "Our opposition," wrote Mr. Bayard on the day the balloting closed with the election of Jefferson, "was continued till it was demonstrated that Burr could not be brought in. • • • Mr. J. did not get a Federal vote." Mr. McClure says the change of a vote in Vermont, of another in Maryland and of another in New Jersey would have elected Burr. But such speculation is idle; the changes were not made, though Burr's friends among the Federalists exhausted every effort to win those votes, and Jefferson afterward declared that bribes were offered to Dr. Linn of New Jersey, Gen. Smith of Maryland and Col. Lyon of Vermont, to induce them to vote for Burr. The bribes were rejected and all three of the members named continued to vote for Jefferson. The vote was by States and Jefferson from the first to the thirty-fifth ballot got eight States, just one-half of all, and on the thirty-sixth or last ballot Col. Matthew Lyon of Vermont cast the vote of that State for him, which gave nine out of sixteen States, a majority for Jefferson, whereby he was elected President. Maryland and Delaware were frightened into submission not through the advice of Hamilton, but by fear, the fear of the Marylanders that they would lose the capital of the United States, which they had just secured after a desperate struggle, and the fear of Delaware that it would be shorn of its consequence as a sovereign State and made a borough of Pennsylvania. and of another in New Jersey would have

had just secured after a desperate struggle, and the fear of Delaware that it would be shorn of its consequence as a sovereign State and made a borough of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Bayard, so far as Delaware was concerned, frankly admitted this in a letter to John Adams shortly after the election, and Albert Gallatin in a letter to James Monroe, declared that the Maryland Federalists deserted Burr and voted blank for fear of losing the seat of government. In the end Col. Lyon got the State of Vermont by the withdrawal of Lewis R. Morris on the last ballot. The latter gentleman and Col. Lyon were the only members from the Green Mountain State. The former's uncle, Gouverneur Morris, was the Senator from New York, who no doubt advised his nephew to absent himself, as the Senator was known to be opposed to Burr.

A full and particular account quoted from the letters of Jefferson, Gallatin, Madison, Harper and Bayard in the "Life of Matthew Lyon' fully demonstrates the fact that Alexander Hamilton, although he deserves the greatest credit for the attempt, nevertheless failed to control a single vote in the Jefferson-Burr contest of 1801. Yours truly.

New York, June 18.

NEW YORK, June 18 PREMIER REQUESTED TO RESIGN.

Dominion Government to Get Rid of McInne of British Columbia. OTTAWA, Ont . June 20 .- The Dominion Gov.

ernment has requested Lieut.-Gov. McInnes of British Columbia to send in his resignation. If the order is not complied with at once he

The Federal Government has taken this action on account of the disgraceful muddle which he nes made of public affairs since his appoint ment two years ago. This is the second time in the history of Canada that such a step has been taken. McInnes has had four ministries in two years, two of which were improperly dismissed from office. Twenty-five out of the dismissed from office. I wenty-five out of the thirty-eight members of the new British Columbia Legislature, including Premier Duns-muir, have petitioned for McInnes's recall. Sir Henry Joly de Lotbindere, the Minister of Inland Revenue for Canada, will succeed

Trees and Rapid Transit.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The ntense wish I might say of all the people of this great city appears to be the preservation of our beautiful Boulevard (and I presume it will continue to bear hat name until it is lost in the burrows of the underground railroad that will destroy the noble trees and he beautiful centre path of the only tree-shaded street in our city), and why should this grand street be o despoiled? Certainly the property owners do not ask for it there. It is simply the wish and the cry of the people for rapid transit, and the people are right and they must have rapid transit, but why ruin and despoil the beauties of the Boulevard .(strictly speak ing a residential street) when for the greatest good it might be so much better placed in Amsterdar avenue, naturally the business avenue of the West Side, as it is the central avenue between the Park and the river, and would thus more truly and evenly serve the transit of the residents of the West Side than upon a line further west of the centre? And it to my earnest belief that Amsterdam avenue would gladly hall the presence of the underground railroad. as it would add just so much more business to a business street.

Now as to the old objection that such a ratiroad to that avenue would interfere with the large water mains there, that objection need no longer exist, for at this moment a 36-inch water main is being laid on the easterly side of the Boulevard, and why should not there, that objection need no longer exist, for at this moment a 36-inch water main is being laid on the easterly side of the Boulevard, and why should not three or four of these same large pipes be laid under the Boulevard if necessary, then the new connection made with the city's water supply, and the old pipes now in Amsterdam avenue becoming useless and being removed and an entire new service being laid along removed and an entire new service being laid along the Boulevard (and the city will soon require these new pipes), would, I think, make a great saving to the rapid transit contractor in the saving of excavations and the removal of the same. Then, as to the change of route, if the Fort Washington people desired it the road could branch westerly at 125th street, through Manhattan street, back to the Boulevard again, where it again enters the tunnel and where there are no centre walks and no fine trees to be killed.

The Rapid Transit Commission kindly gave a hearing to a committee of the West End Association to consider the matter of trying to meet the wishes of the prople, and to preserve, if possible, the beauties of the grand Boulevard. I believe the matter was then referred to Mr. McDonald to see if the plan would be feasible and within the scope of his contract to build a tunnel under each roadway of the Boulevard, instead of the destructive one through the centre. (We have seen the effect of such an open-and-shut cut on Park avenue. Do we want to see it duplicated on the West Side! We think not.)

Now all thanks for the courtesy, and we believe the earnest wish of the Rapid Transit Commission to help us in the matter; but our efforts were in vain. No doubt the extra cost of the earnest wish of the Rapid Transit Commission to help us in the matter; but our efforts were in vain. No doubt the extra cost of the extra tunnel forbid Mr. McDonald's making the courtesy, and we believe the monsider our wishes, cannot they again consider our wishes, cannot they again consider our wishes and the present sugge

lay but, perhaps we have become used to the lay but, perhaps we have become used to the lay rapid transit.

Better a little delay now than to suffer for years the regrets of an unalterable mistake.

A WEST SIDER.

The British Officer an Amateur.

From the London Datty Mail. The British officer went to South Africa eagerly "to

enjoy a little sport." And he went there confidently, leaving word in England that he would "be back by Christmas." He has had a great deal more practical professional experience than has come to any other men in the other armies of the world, and yet-and here's the whole trouble-he feels no more like a professional soldier than before. He is still an amateur, to whom the studies, the periodial literature, the "shop" discussions and the multitudinous moot points of military science are both unloved and unknown. As a man the British officer is superb. He will do his duty. He does not fear the Boers or death, He sets the finest example of unwavering patience and manly courage to a body of privates already richer in those qualities than any others in Europe; but he is thinking of the hounds, of polo. of cricket, of Good-wood and Ascot-of anything except of making soldiering his lifework and the ladder to a career.

The disappointment of the colonial officers was painofficer was a tyro at the game, like themselver

PRAYED FOR MISSIONARIES. Special Services Here Yesterday and in Bos.

ton and London. The Protestant missionary societies in London, Boston and New York held union meetings at noon yesterday to offer prayers for the safety of the missionaries in China. The New York meeting was held in the assembly room of the Presbyterian Building, 156 Fifth avenue. The Rev. Dr. Brown, one of the secretaries to the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, presided. Representatives from all the Protes.

tant missionary societies here were present. In opening the meeting Dr. Brown said: "It is not a time for speaking, but for prayer We need not discuss the present situation in China. We all understand it. Neither do wa need to bring pressure upon our Government, for the Administration is doing all that can be done to protect the lives or our imperited mis-We must spend our days in praying. In the zone of disturbance our society has eighty-four missionaries, sixteen of whom

are in Pekin." The Rev. Dr. Leonard, one of the secretaries of the Methodist Foreign Board, said that the Methodists had forty-five missionaries in Shan-Tung province and twenty in Pekin. He said that it had been learned that the missionaries at Zoomat, 100 miles northeast of Pekin, had gone to Tien-Tsin for safety. Then Dr. Leon-ard added:

"Our society has given up all efforts to communicate with its missionaries in the province

and added:
"Our society has given up all efforts to communicate with its missionaries in the provinces where the trouble is occurring. The Commercial Cable Company has notified us that it can transmit messages only as far as Chefoo. From there on the transmission would be at our own risk and would be by boat from Chefoo to Taku and thence to Tien-Tsin. It is, therefore, useless to try to cable at present."

The Rev. Dr. C. C. Creegan, District Secretary to the American Board of Foreign Missions (Congregational), said that his board had about one hundred and seventy-five missionaries in China, sixty of whom were in the disturbed provinces. Dr. Creegan said that college buildings belonging to the American Board and valued at \$55,000 had already been destroyed. He said that his board had been advised that the Congregational missionaries outside Pekin had started for the capital for safety several days ago, but nothing had been beauty from them as twenthers. aries outside Pekin had started for the capital for safety several days ago, but nothing had been heard from them as to whether or not they had arrived or whether, indeed, they were alive. The Mission Board of the Christian and Missionary Alliance met yesterday and cabled to their agents at Wu-Hu and Wuchang to seek safe places. No cable was sent to Pekin or Tientsin. Twenty-two missionaries are affected by the orders.

INSTITUTE OF HOMEOPATHY. Bill Drafted to Secure Uniform Medical Legis-

lation in the Various States. WASHINGTON, June 20 .- At the second ses-

sion of the fifty-sixth annual convention of the American Institute of Homosopathy, the following officers were nominated for the ensuing year: Dr. W. W. Van Baum of Philadelphia, President; Dr. A. B. Norton of New York, Dr. George Royal of Des Moines and Dr. Flora N. Ward of San Fransisco, Vice Presidents; Dr. Eugene H. Porter of New York. General Secretary; Dr. Wilson A. Smith, of Chicago, Recording Secretary; Dr. T. Franklin Smith of New York, Treasurer and Dr. Henry C. Aldrich of Minneapolis, registrar.

The Committee on Legislation of which Dr A. B. Norton of New York is chairman, submitted a report and a draft of a bill to secure uniform medical legislation in the various States with the object of securing reciprocity in mediwith the object of securing reciprocity in medical licensure. The report recommends securing through the State organizations and the members of the various boards of medical examiners in affiliation with the Institute, modifications in the various State laws which will permit an exchange of licenses between States having the same requirements for the practice of medicine. The cooperation of the American Medical Association and of the National Eclectic Association and other organizations interested in medical licensure is to be requested.

The draft of the bill submitted, which will

be requested.

The draft of the bill submitted, which will be introduced in Congress, authorizes the appointment of a commission of three physicians, representing respectively the American Medical Association, the American Institute of Homocopathy and the National Eclectic Medical Association, to examine existing laws of the various States and to recommend such additional legislation as in present the source with the submitted of the state of tional legislation as is necessary to secure a uni-form and efficient standard of qualification for the practice of medicine and surgery. The report was adopted.

Mr. R. Croker and His Berkshire Neighbors. From the London Sportsman.

Among Mr. Richard Croker's neighbors in Berkshire there has been, says Truth, a very general feeling of disgust at the attacks that have been made upon this gentleman by one of 8. I do not know Mr. Croke myself, and I have no fondness for the political organization he bosses; but those who have come into contact with the American politician prenounce him to be one of the quietest and most unassuming of men, friendly, hospitable and charitable, while showing not the slightest disposition to thrust himself into county society or to "cut a fizure" in any direction. Neither his politics nor any other of his views have been obtruded upon his neighbors, nor on any one in this country. It is alleged, however (with what truth I do not know and do not care), that Mr. Croker has favored the Boer delegates in America, and to such lengths is the abuse of "patriotism" for trade or party purposes now carried, that this allegation is deemed sufficient to justify the raising of a hue and cry in the London press against an American critizen who has paid us the compliment of acquiring a home in England and whose conduct among us has been beyond reproach. A grosser breach of the laws of hospitality, not to say good manners could hardly be committed, even in the name of patriotism. come into contact with the American politician

patriotism. Senator Hanna's Face.

From the Philadelphia Record. No man in public life has been so mercilessly caricatured by artist and libelled by camera. The caricaturist, of course, is never expected to convey a true likeness, although he invariably seeks to preserve a semblance of a man's features and expressions, however distorted they n ay be. In Senator Hanna's case however, he seems entirely at sea. This impression is forced upon one by studying the man at close range. The caricaturist may perhaps be pardoned for not coming nearer that the truth, when the fact is taken into consideration truth, when the fact is taken into consideration that even the photographer usually fails to catch the details of the Senator's facial characteristics. There is an indescribable semething about the man that defies reproduction. His is a remarkable face in many respects, full of light and shade, expressive to the extent of being almost nanoranic, ever changing with his own mood or the moods of those about him. It is a rugged face, such as you see on those actors who change their clastic features at will in giving imitations of famous men. And yet at times it seems to be as unfathomable as the face of the very Sphinx. Small wonder that the artist fails to retain its clusive characteristics.

Advantages of Total Abstinence to Soldiers.

From the Independent According to efficial reports nearly four thousand of the men who have gone to South Africa on active service are members of the Army Temperance Association. Lord Roberts, in commenting on this report, added that he had been struck by the returns from India, which showed a remarkable difference between the convictions recorded in 1898 among abstainers and non-abstainers. Among the former only 4.12 in 1,000 had been court-martialed, while among the non-abstainers the figures were 36.8 in 1,000. In 1897 the figures were much the same. The admissions into hospitals were also largely in excess in the case of non-abstainers. It appeared that during the Tirab war 2,000 men went through the whole campaign eithout taking a drop of alcohol.

This new and significant tendency in the army at pears to be the result not so much of any religious of moral enterprise as of a growing conviction hat free use of alcohol interferes with the efficiency of the troops. Gen. Klitchener prohibited all drinks e of taining alcohol in the Sudan campaign, except the few that were prescribed by the medical officers, and after a little preliminary grumbling the men dis covered for themselves that the Commander in Chief was right when he emptied out into the desert a cargo of Scotch whizeey that had been smuggled into her ber for sale to the troops. In the Ashanti war and the Kaffir war the good health of the troops was also ascribed to the suspension of the rum ration.

From the Memphis Commercial Appeal Mr. Oswa d Ott ndorffer of the New York | tagte Zeitung, like chier goldbugs who deserted from the Democratic ranks in 1895, is willing to magnify im perialism into an issue providing he be permitted to slaughter the financial question. These very smart people are wise enough to see that expansion is a fact, finally and permanently accomplished, and that it cannot be destroyed by all the thunderings that can e crowded into a platform. Their purpose is to divert the public mind from the financial question by ta sing up a purely factitious issue. Their purpose is to de-feat silver. Silver will be a prominent issue, and Bryan its incarnation will be the chosen standard JULIAN RALPH. | bearer.